

logical conditions, and in certain stages of the processes have a definite symptomatology, they always occur coincident with or as complications of other demonstrable lesions as the primary cause. Hæmatocele and hæmatoma are commonly the results of a ruptured tubal pregnancy, and consequently are not entitled to exhaustive consideration. This chapter, however, gives the reader much valuable information regarding tubal gestation.

The chapters on tubal inflammations and ovarian tumors are particularly well written and worthy of the most careful perusal. The subject of uterine tumors, especially fibromyomata of the uterus, has received attention, the diagnosis and differential diagnosis being treated at some length.

The treatment mentioned and recommended throughout the work is in every way conservative, the typical operations are clearly described, and considerable space is given to the medical treatment of disorders of the female pelvis, a part of the subject too often overlooked because of the surgical tendency of the times.

The book as a whole contains much that is not found in other text-books on the subject, valuable to the practitioner as well as the specialist. It is doubtful if this edition will add anything to the reputation of the authors, as there is not enough that is new in the text to fetch the book up to the standard of the many excellent American works on the subject. The cuts are good, but inferior to those in many of our modern publications. The typography is excellent.

J. O. POLAK.

BAKTERIOLOGISCHE UNTERSUCHUNGEN ÜBER HÄNDE-DESINFECTI-
TION und ihre Endergebnisse für die Praxis. Von. Dr. med.
O. SARWEY a.o. Professor in Tübingen. Berlin, 1905. Ver-
lag von August Hirschwald. N. W. Unter den Linden 68.
Octavo, 90 pages.

As a result of more than 1500 separate tests, continued over the space of four years, the author reaches the following impor-

tant conclusion: "It is impossible to achieve absolute sterility of the hands with any practicable method of hand-disinfection now known; and experiments which tend to prove otherwise are misleading, for all such contain some error in technique which invalidates the result."

The major portion of the book is devoted to the refutation of Ahlfeld's contention that it is possible, at least in a majority of cases, to obtain sterility by his hot-water alcohol method. And the investigations of our author are apparently conclusive as to this point. He admits, however, that by this method the number of bacteria are reduced almost to a minimum, and that it may be impossible to demonstrate bacteria in the skin until the hands have been softened by steaming or caustic soda.

In addition to the main point, as to whether absolute sterility of the hands could be achieved, the investigations were directed to a comparison of the relative values of the various methods employed to diminish the number of bacteria present. Of these, the purely mechanical—marble dust soap—method appeared to be worthless. No appreciable diminution in the number of bacteria present could be noted. Cyllin and sapol solutions were comparatively feeble in their action; lysoform, phenol, and permanganate were somewhat more efficient.

Far greater in their ability to diminish the number of bacteria present are the following, and these increase in efficiency in the order named. Sublimate lanolin, watery solution of mercuric citrate, ethylene diamine, sublimine, sublimate acetone, trisaponis viridis, hot-water alcohol, sublimate ethyl alcohol and sublimate methyl alcohol. Between the last named there was no appreciable difference noted. But the following group was still more powerful: Bazillol alcohol, lysoform alcohol, chloromethylethyl ether, bleaching powder, and muriatic acid, and 5 per cent. formaldehyde. On account of their irritating properties, the last three are not practicable.

In the choice of a disinfectant, absence of odor, absence of

irritating qualities, comparative harmlessness, and cheapness must be considered as well as efficiency. And considered from all these stand-points, the author believes that either a 2 per cent. lysoform alcohol solution or a 2 per cent. sublatin alcohol solution should have the preference.

In conclusion, the author advocates the use of rubber gloves, as these can be made absolutely sterile, whereas the hands cannot be sterilized.

JAMES EDDY BLAKE.

LEITFADEN DER KRIEGS-CHIRURGISCHEN OPERATIONS U. VERBANDSTECHNIK. VON DR. HERMAN FISCHER, Ord. Professor der Chirurgie; Geh. Medizinalrath. Zweite Auflage, mit 55 Abbildungen in Text. Berlin, 1905. Verlag von August Hirschwald. N. W. Unter den Linden, 68.

This second edition owes its appearance within four years after the first edition to a desire of the author to have it conform to the field of sanitary ordinances of the War Department, and embody a condensed account of the action of modern projectiles.

The experiences of the late Boer war gleaned from literature have materially contributed to many changes in all the chapters.

The field sanitary division comprises a first-aid station (Truppen Verbandplatz) where the severest emergencies, temporary hæmostasis, tracheotomy in threatened asphyxia, severe pain, syncope, and shock are treated. All major operations, probing of wounds or extraction of any foreign bodies that do not readily present themselves, are interdicted, and all bandaging of wounds is reserved for the second station, the haupt Verbandplatz. This station is equipped with materials for dressing the wounds, apparatus, and the means of transportation, medicines, stimulants, and tents.

This station is subdivided into three sub-stations,—the reception station, where the diagnosis, entry, and distribution of patients are effected; the dressing station, where lesser wounds are